

Wichita / Sedgwick County Access Advisory Board

June 25, 2008 - Meeting Minutes

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Independent Living Resource Center – 3033 West 2nd St. North

I. Welcome and Introductions – Lindsey Mahoney, Vice Chair

a. Meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Attendance for the WSCAAB:

Present:

Ed Koon	Chris Caldarella
Susan Robinson	Tiffany Nickel
John Sullivan	Jerry Davidson
Judy Weigel	Carole Keedy
Lori Lawrence	Valerhy Powers
Sanford J. Alexander III	Steve Hinds
Steve Stambaugh	Craig Perbeck
Julie Hedrick	

Absent:

Ron Pasmore	Jennifer Foster-Farquhar
Dr. David Waldie	Roger Dakin
Marty Rothwell	De Eaton
Nick Taylor	David Calvert
Grady Landrum	

City/County Staff Present:

Jeanne Goodvin	City of Wichita ADA Coordinator
Charles Karugu	ADA Associate Engineer, City of Wichita
Lindsey Mahoney	Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator

Guests: Paul Gunzelman, City of Wichita

II. Discuss APS Pedestrian Signals – Paul Gunzelman

a. Paul explained that audible pedestrian signals were installed at Pawnee and Broadway in 2005. He has gone through all of the work orders and made a

list of where audible pedestrian signals exist, and the City is now having technicians visit each location.

- b. At Main Street crosswalk, north of Central, he expects the new APS signals to be installed next week. He will be on vacation starting next week (for two weeks) and will return on the 17th. After the installation, he will contact Steve Stambaugh or Sanford Alexander for their review. A trial demonstration of the signals is tentatively planned for the week of the 21st. The plan is to see how those signals work, make any adjustments, and then, if acceptable, signals will be installed at Central and Main.
- c. Sanford asked what vendor is being used, and Paul replied that they are going through Gatey Sales (he can send the actual product name). These are the APS signals that will talk and will have voice commands.
- d. Mid-block crosswalks with APS signals exist at (these will be replaced upon approval of the new installation):
 - i. Main, north of Central
 - ii. 21st and Batton
 - iii. 17th and Fairmont (near WSU)
 - iv. 21st and Old Manor
- e. The remainder of the APS installations are at intersections.
- f. Paul explained that the City is currently in the process of replacing the pedestrian indication lamps (they have recently changed the specification from incandescent to LED lamps). This specification has been delayed to update it for the numerical count down. These will be replaced all over town. There are approximately 20 intersections with some type of signalized crosswalk.
- g. Steve Stambaugh asked if all signalized crosswalks will be replaced with the recommended installation. Paul said, yes, but first he would like to have the trial installation reviewed. Paul proposed a three-month trial run for the signals. Steve Stambaugh stated that he believes that it should only take a one-month period to know if the signals are acceptable.
- h. Steve Stambaugh stated that he is not aware of Envision ever making a request for signals. Paul said that the work order noted a request by Ryan Johnson.
- i. It was discussed that the trial should look at how long the pulsating sound lasts. Steve Stambaugh described that currently, you can't cross at Pawnee and Broadway in the time that the sound is emitted from the pole (can only make it half way, and then this creates a hazard for the person now stuck out on the island). Lindsey Mahoney explained that in the current installation on Main Street, north of Central, the audible signal does not

last long enough to cross the street. She only crosses halfway when the signal stops. Paul will check if the time can be extended.

- j. Sanford Alexander explained that it will be important to be consistent at all locations with the audible countdown, so that individuals can be trained about what the signals mean throughout Wichita (and that the meaning is not different at each location). This is important for both the audible signal and the flashing countdown. Sanford suggested training in what the signals mean (with respect to how much time is left in the cycle).
- k. Paul explained that currently he takes the width of the street and divides that by 3.5 ft./sec. This is the time for flashing walk signal. The audible signal coincides with the flashing walk signal. An additional four seconds of time is allowed for the yellow light.
- l. Lindsey Mahoney explained that within the last week or two, the signal at the crosswalk on Main had been changed from a buzzing sound to a new chirping sound. Paul explained that this is probably the result of the technician checking all of the signals and making any corrections so that all of the north-south and all of the east-west signals are consistent.

III. Meeting Minutes

- a. Corrections to May meeting minutes:
 - i. Craig Perbeck was present for the last meeting, not absent.
 - ii. Sanford stated that Carol Keedy was absent at the last meeting, but it was stated that this was due to a doctor's appointment.
 - iii. Section VIIIb, should be corrected to say that the visually impaired program is moving from West High to South High.
- b. Minutes were approved as emailed, except with minor corrections noted above.
- c. Jeanne Goodvin thanked Lindsey for preparing such detailed meeting minutes. It was stated that it is a challenge to conduct the meeting and also take the minutes at the same time.

IV. Agenda Building

- a. Judy Weigel stated that she had made contact with David Calvert's wife yesterday. He got out of the hospital Monday after surgery, and his recovery was going fine. She could hear him in the background talking. The board wished him a quick recovery.
- b. Lori Lawrence asked to have Jeanne add discussion of videophones to the agenda. Jeanne said that she had discussed that the City's on a budget and they are trying to plan them into some upcoming projects, like the airport. Lori said that she was talking about the free videophones that can go into

any location people will congregate. Lindsey suggested we come back to this issue.

V. Wichita Public Schools – School Bond Presentation

- a. Sanford Alexander stated that he had assumed we would be discussing accessibility issues related to the school bond, but that the information he had received regarding the school bond appeared to be a political piece. Since the opposing side is not here to present their argument, he did not feel it would be appropriate to present political information to the board.
- b. Lindsey asked Julie Hedrick to explain the intent of her presentation and how it related to accessibility issues.
- c. Julie explained that the intent was to be informative relating to the bond plan. She had planned to preface her presentation with the comment that several months back, this board requested information regarding the bond plan. She discussed this with her bosses and the bond plan manager. As a partnership between this board and the schools, if the bond issue passes, there will be a representative from this board at all design review meetings. Julie stated that Jeanne (or Charles as back-up) would attend each meeting as the representative. So far, they haven't had any of these meetings.
- d. The PowerPoint she planned to use is the only presentation she has on the bond issue, and it was developed by their marketing department. Julie said that she would not be offended if the board did not want to view this part of the presentation.
- e. Jeanne Goodvin agreed that at this point it would be best to skip the PowerPoint. If the bond issue passes, then the board can look more closely at the projects and design issues involved.
- f. Lindsey suggested that board members may want to share any additional ideas, concerns, comments, questions, feedback with Julie at this time.
 - i. Craig Perbeck explained that the best accessibility suggestion is to have no stairs.
 - ii. Steve Stambaugh stated that if the bond issue is approved, he would recommend that meeting minutes be emailed to all members of this board, since it is hard for Jeanne or Charles to be familiar with all perspectives. Jeanne said she can provide minutes regarding the accessibility portion of these meetings.
- g. Julie explained that no separate meetings for accessibility would be taking place. The meeting would focus on all design issues, including accessibility.
- h. Lindsey Mahoney asked if there is anything in this bond issue that is specific to accessibility improvements or transition plan improvements.

Julie explained that there are no plans specific to accessibility improvements, but that all projects would include accessibility (new facilities, additions, and renovations). Due to the average age of many school buildings (between 55 and 60 years old), there are lots of stairs, no elevators, and multi-levels in some facilities.

- i. Jeanne explained that contractors are now required to sign off for ADA compliance, and plan review is done for all new construction.
- j. Sanford said that this discussion presented a lot of relevant information. Lindsey agreed that having an accessibility viewpoint on the design review committee (Jeanne or Charles) goes a long way. Jeanne also stated that she and Charles sit in on many design meetings, and there are a lot of contractors and architects that don't like them (due to their insistence on meeting all accessibility requirements). For example, they walked through City Arts and found 14 additional items that needed attention, and correction, before opening.

VI. Report on City Council's Adoption of Transition Plan

- a. Jeanne Goodvin thanked this board for their input regarding the transition plan. It has been a long ordeal, beginning in 2005-2006. The plan would not have been possible without the commitment of this board.
- b. On June 3rd, David Calvert presented the final approved transition plan to the City Council. This included over 3000 accessibility concerns. Jeanne brought with her the transition plan binders to show the detail. The City's ADA Team has also created a separate book that lists all of the very high and high priority issues. This allows them to look at how they can group projects most efficiently (ex. – door hardware).
- c. By 2017, they hope to have completed all identified issues. The improvements are laid out over a 10 year plan. All new construction will meet ADA Standards and ADAAG. The time frame took into account budgetary and legal concerns.
- d. Jeanne explained that more has been done this year than they ever thought. For example, they addressed all door handles throughout the County at one time, as opposed to just building by building.
- e. David's presentation may be viewed online or on channel 7.
- f. Jeanne read the plan's goal impact aloud to the group:
 - i. "The adoption of the final transition plan will have a positive impact on the efficient infrastructure goal, as access to public facilities is created or improved for citizens with disabilities. The goal of quality of life will also be positively affected, as the improvements

- to access will allow those with mobility or other challenges to participate in a greater extent to the public life of this community.
- ii. She hopes that this is to become one of the most accessible cities in the state, and at some point, Wichita and Sedgwick County will be used as an example in this state. Now the implementation work of the next phase is beginning.
 - iii. Charles added that right now they are in the process of doing adjustments to 21 facilities. They will then have a contract for another 18 facilities. He invited members to visit Grove Park and the Great Plains Nature Center to look at the work being done and provide feedback. At the next meeting, Charles will bring a list of locations where work is being done.
 - iv. Jeanne described that the City is also working on a grant for accessible golf carts (\$9000 each). Charles was confident that they'll be able to get two accessible golf carts this fall, with more next year. It was also noted that a new ramp is being installed at Rockwell Library.
 - v. Last week, Jeanne said that they met to look into getting a printer so that the City would be able to do Braille transcription on a limited basis. Enabling Technologies is the manufacturer. Sanford says that he has one of these at his office and so far, it hasn't missed a dot. Now the City is working on a budget for these, as well as the video phones. Victor White will be here next month to talk about these, as well as the new airport and library.
 - vi. Steve Stambaugh asked if a quarterly report of transition plan work has been prepared. Charles said that the first quarter is online. Every three months thereafter, a new report will be posted. Steve suggested that Charles email the board when each new report is posted. He will email a link to this plan.
 - vii. Steve Hinds mentioned that he had received a complaint from a consumer about an art museum exhibit on the second floor. That person was not able to access it on a terrace due to stairs and interior doors marked "Emergency Exit Only." Jeanne will look into this issue.

VII. Emergency Communications Subcommittee

- a. Chris Caldarella asked about setting up a subcommittee for Emergency Communications subcommittee for people who are deaf. Lindsey explained that this was discussed at last week's special meeting for tornado sirens, 911, and other notifications for people who are deaf. Lindsey spoke

with the County's Emergency Management and 911 departments, and those groups were both interested in discussions with this board. Lindsey explained that David Calvert, as Chair, is responsible for forming subcommittees. She will speak with him before our next meeting to discuss forming this committee. Jeanne said that the City's Security Assessment Team may also want involvement.

- b. It was asked if anyone attended the Emergency Management Department's Training Exercise. Susan Robison attended and explained that it was really scary to think about. Her organization is now working with other organizations to develop their emergency management plan and procedure.

VIII. Paratransit Services Proposal Update

- a. Susan Robinson described the 6/18/08 meeting with the Interim City Manager. The City has found \$180,000 that they can get a match from the federal level for a total of \$360,000. The plan is to create a new subcommittee to look at options and treat this as a "new beginning." They learned that Wichita Transit has never used City taxes for any of its programs, which put a new perspective on the issue. Fourth quarter, the paratransit organizations may start seeing some relief. Wichita Transit will need to pull some taxes from the City fund to subsidize their services. Susan was happy with the media attention on the issue. At this point they are sort of starting over.
- b. Steve Stambaugh said that, "Susan's pretty kind." Steve was very concerned with the Commissioner's statement that "something needs to happen" and "we don't need to hire consultants." But now a consultant is going to be looking into this matter. They said a number of people have been questioning the numbers as too high. Steve asked who was saying this. Mike Vincent (acting general manager for Wichita Transit) said it was him. Steve asked what his expenses were, and Mike replied \$21/ ride and they provide 2.2 rides per hour. The agencies are willing to work with the City, but they won't be willing to work for too much longer. Mike is supposed to be getting back with the agencies to set up a meeting, but so far they have not heard from him.
- c. Susan said that the agencies suggested to Mike Vincent that Wichita Transit needed to start figuring out how to provide their rides. Mike said that they would need a "transition period." Susan said that she can't find anything in the ADA that requires a "transition period," and she has emailed Mike about this. Steve stated that if progress hasn't occurred by October, this issue will be back on the burner and hotter than ever.

- d. Lindsey asked Steve and Susan to report back to the board as progress is made on this issue

IX. Discussion of Goals

- a. Lindsey asked the group to discuss the goals of this board and plans for the future (especially since the transition plans are beginning to move to an implementation stage).
- b. Lindsey brought the WSCAAB operating policies and read the “Duties and Responsibilities” section to begin the discussion.
- c. Goals and ideas were written on the marker board for discussion.
 - i. Sanford suggested that a goal is to find a good way to track projects and issues. Develop a process to track and revisit issues (ex. – the arena, APS signals, and airport). This gives the opportunity to look at issues early and not lose the opportunity. Steve Stambaugh agrees that this helps to hold people accountable.
 - ii. Focus on being proactive, as opposed to only reacting to “what’s hot.”
 - iii. Sanford also suggested a goal of a process to make sure that the City piece and County piece of the agenda don’t “swallow each other.”
 - iv. Jerry Davidson asked how many committees we have, who’s on them, and what the issues are. The chairperson of each committee could prepare a periodic report to share with the board.
 - 1. Existing Committees
 - a. Parking committee
 - b. Audible Pedestrian Signals committee
 - c. Transportation
 - d. Communication
 - e. Appeals to Wichita Transit (at some upcoming meeting it was requested that Jeanne give an update on this process)
 - 2. Possible New Committees
 - a. Emergency Communications
 - b. Design Review Committee for major projects
 - c. Education Committee
 - 3. It was suggested to focus on committees, committee goals, and procedures for our August meeting.
 - 4. Having smaller committees meet and bring the big issues back to the board may help by allowing more time to discuss issues in the smaller group. Jerry agreed that revisiting

committees at this point may make sense, as the board is moving from “creating a plan” to “monitoring a plan.”

5. Members should come to this meeting prepared to discuss committee goals.
6. Some committees were created to “put out fires.” A committee goal can be to be proactive, not only reactive.
- v. Jeanne described other actions that she’s involved in, for example, sometimes a letter from the City goes a long way in resolving a Title III complaint at a private business. Sanford said that there might be an opportunity to invite the State ADA Coordinator and look at where the City, County, and possibly the State may overlap in their actions, and defining who the right contact is. For example, Sanford asked if your dog gets attacked by another dog, who do you call. There’s a state law regarding this issue. Do you call police, animal control, the state? Training is key for departments and organizations to know about responsibilities.

X. What can we do for the Private Sector?

- a. Feedback to private sector for issues of importance to this board:
 - i. For example, next month the Harman Arena design team will be presenting for feedback on accessibility issues related to the arena. This is a private arena in Park City.
 - ii. It was suggested to check where they are at with construction, and make sure that they are not too far along for the comments to be addressed.
 - iii. It was agreed that this arena is a big player in the area, so in this case it would make sense to present, but we may not want invite every “mom and pop” business to do the same.
 - iv. It was asked if this arena would go through the County plan review process. Lindsey said that she did not believe it would, as it would fall within the Park City limits. She will check for sure.
 1. A project in Derby was described where the County approved the plans, but Derby later inspected and said no, it’s not correct.
- b. Contractor/Architect Training
 - i. Give AIA credit to encourage designers to attend.
 - ii. Both City and County now require training.
- c. Sensitivity Training

- d. It was asked if ADA plan reviews are more stringent for projects that receive TIF financing. Jeanne and Charles emphasized that ADA requirements are not different between cities or local jurisdictions.
- e. Charles explained that he often encounters private entities that act out of fear. They expect that ADA requirements will be extensive and costly, but after he meets with them, they say, “That’s all?”
- f. Education is importance for people to know that they need to follow the most stringent code.
 - i. Tiffany asked if there was still a tax deduction for small businesses. Charles said yes, he believed a deduction is allowed up to \$10,000.
 - ii. Teach that accessibility is good business.
 - iii. Explaining the 20% rule for alterations to primary function areas is important to the private sector. Do it right the first time.
 - iv. It is suggested that the education committee could work with the private sector.

XI. Video Phones

- a. Lori Lawrence discussed that a video phone in City Hall would be a great idea, since the one that is there is not user friendly. She thought one would be installed once the renovation was complete, but it has not been done. This is not a free phone (but it’s a combine video phone/TTY/voice phone). Lindsey is also looking into this product for the County Courthouse.
- b. Jeanne passed around a brochure on the CSD video phone.
- c. Also, Sorensen video phones gives away free video phones (\$500 value). They will come and install them. They can only call out (no incoming calls), and it requires a high speed internet connection. You must demonstrate to Sorensen that there are sufficient deaf people who would use the phone. For video relay service, you can only use the Sorenson relay service.
- d. Chris agreed that this is much faster, easier, and simpler than the TTY for people who use sign language.
- e. Lindsey said that she’d be interested in hearing of suggested locations for free phones in the County facilities. Police stations and the libraries were suggested as good locations by Lori.

XII. Other Announcements

- a. July 31st, at Wichita Workforce Center 3rd floor, there will be a training on sensitivity training and employment issues. Jeanne is sending her

departmental coordinators to this, as well as holding a separate training on July 24th for them.

- b. It was requested to have a parking/stripping regulation presentation at the next meeting. Jeanne said they can present the City's PowerPoint on this issue. Jeanne said that David Calvert thought that this training should be a national example.
- c. Sedgwick County Self-Evaluation & Transition Plan:
http://www.sedgwickcounty.org/personnel/ada_plan.asp
 - i. Lindsey invited board members to attend either of the public forum hearings:
 - Public Forum – July 9th at 9:00am BoCC Meeting (3rd floor of Main Courthouse, 525 N. Main)
 - Public Forum – July 9th at 6:30pm at Main Courthouse Jury Room (use north entrance)

The next meeting will be:

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Independent Living Resource Center

3033 West 2nd Street

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Meeting minutes prepared by:

Lindsey Mahoney, Sedgwick County ADA Coordinator